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The River of Life.

MRS. HARRIET JONES.

"And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out from the throne of God and the Lamb."—Rev. 22 : 1.

Oh, that shining river
Coming from the throne,
Where our dear Redeemer
Sweetly claims his own!

CHORUS.—Peaceful, peaceful river,
Flowing on forever
O'er the golden sand
Through the blessed land!
Oh! that shining river.

Oh, that crystal river
Far above the strife,
Gliding, sweetly gliding,
Near the tree of life!

Oh, that living river,
Oh! that healing stream,
Sweetly shown the prophet
In that blissful dream!

Oh, be mine the rapture—
Mine, the joy supreme,
To awake some morning
Near that living stream.

"Gen. Grant the Great Smoker."

Under the above head in the last No. of the EVANGELIST, was an editorial so true and striking as to attract my special attention. That men are apt to imitate or fall into the habits of those they consider their leaders in every department of life, is a well attested fact. And men who are put forward as rulers or teachers of morals and religion should ever bear in mind that their habits may prove a blessing or a curse to the people they rule or the people they teach.

Confucious, the great Chinese philosopher, nearly twenty five hundred years ago, well understood this fact. The king Ke-Kang, who was a very mercenary and covetous man, became much distressed about the number of thieves in his kingdom, and enquired of Confucious how he might do away with them. He said, "If you, sir, were not covetous, the people would not steal though you should pay them for it." The king then said, "What do you say about killing the unprincipled for the good of the principled." Confucious then said, "In carrying out your government why use killing at all? Let the rulers desire what is good and the people will be good. The grass must bend when the wind blows across it. How can men who cannot rectify themselves rectify others!"

How true the above. The wind of the example of rulers or teachers will bend the people for weal or for woe, and in most cases unconsciously.

In conclusion, I would say that the moral teachings of my parents are yet fresh upon my memory, and doubtless have been of great service to me through a long life. J. A. WALTERS.

Dayton, O., Feb. 2, 1885.

Some Pointed Remarks.

The New German Baptist Church at Keirka, Fla., but recently organized as announced in a former No. of the "Messenger" is to have a Love Feast sometime in this month Jan. Elder J. H. Moore in his Florida notes says: "It will be announced in good time, for there are those who would like to attend a feast in the "Sunny South." The church has voted *to commence with a single mode of feet washing."—Messenger*

So the practice of the ordinances must still run along in the swift current of progressive "Progression and Congregationalism." It seems that the recent pressure since 1882-4 is hard after the heel of those people to have them leave the once peaceable order of the Lord's people in the shade of popular shame still seeking for the mission faculty of preaching. Not much wonder there is a—wonder—in the minds of some who have not taken a stand against all this new kind of church conversion—changing almost every doctrine and practice—setting at Variance the very government of the old church itself. While those who play the sad drama; keeping up the plea that in NO SINGER ACT, SENSE, ORDER OR USAGE, have they altered changed, added to or taken from the old creditable faith one iota of anything contrary to the fathers of old! How long O Lord our Lord, will these continue to hurt the peace of thine annointed? We wish those brethren no ill feelings whatever; but the written productions have laid upon our shelves and in the hearts of the simple; they speak loudly and squarely that those folks "have changed" from the old faith to those whom they have set at naught for the same things in the twilight of the evening of the pure land of prophecy.—THE VINDICATOR.

Sunday School Statistics.

The following statistics for the year 1880, compiled from the *S. S. Times*, give a hint of the magnitude of this important work:

"Whole number of teachers in the United States, 886,328; of scholars, 6,623,124. In Great Britain and Ireland, teachers, 500,369; scholars, 4,615,543. Summing up the statistics of this work for the world by its six grand divisions, we have the following: In Europe, teachers, 550,001; scholars, 4,332,813. In Asia, teachers, 1,772; scholars, 38,000. In Africa, teachers, 300; scholars, 15,000. In North America, teachers, 931,740; scholars, 6, 974,454. In South America, teachers, 3,000; scholars, 155,000. In Oceanica, teachers, 17,800; scholars, 170,000. Total in the world, teachers, 1,504,613; scholars, 12,680,267; of which 1,386,697 teachers, and 11,238,577 scholars were in Great Britain and the United States; and it is probable that nearly all the Sunday schools in Asia, Africa, South America, and Oceanica are due to the presence and labors of English-speaking people."

A writer in *Zion's Herald* says: "The Salvation Army has leased the skating rink at Biddeford, Maine, for one year. The Army may solve the problem as to what is to be done with these rinks which are springing up every where as centers of folly and dissipation. They may come to be centers of saving power through the agency of this new evangelistic force. May heaven speed their conversion!"

The Religious World.

A school for Christian workers, unsectarian, has been opened in Springfield, Mass.

Mr. Spurgeon has gone on his annual vacation to Mentone, on the Mediteranean, for rest and recreation.

The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian church will be held in Topeka, Kan., beginning May 27.

The salary of Frances Asbury, the first Methodist bishop in this country, was $64 and his traveling expenses.

Chili has abolished the Roman Catholic state religion, and decreed liberty to all forms of Christian faith.

Joseph Cook is again lecturing in Tremont Temple, Boston. Two of his subjects are Revelation and Inspiration.

Rev. Ross Taylor, son of Bishop Wm. Taylor, who has gone to Africa with his wife and four children, for several years past has been book-keeper in the First National Bank of San Jose, California.

The Ohio state association of Young Men's Christian Associations will hold their eighteenth annual meeting of Columbus, Feb. 12th to 15th. There is a strong association in this state, and about two hundred delegates are expected to be present.

It is stated by the *Western Recorder* that of the more than 1,200 Baptist churches in Kentucky, not more than forty have preaching every Sunday; perhaps one hundred have services twice a month, and all the rest once a month.

During the pastorate of Rev. Dr. R. Jeffery in Denver, Colorado, over three hundred communicants have been added to the church, while an additional church has been founded and two missions established, and a new church edifice and two chapels erected.

The Associate Reformed Synod of the south reports the following statistics: Total number of members, 6,727; total amount of salaries paid, 38,909,16; total amount of contributions, including Seminary endowment, 64, 851.76; contributions *per capita* $9.59.

The Rev. Dr. Torrence, of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, says that the Scriptures are circulated in the "Keystone" State in twenty-two languages, while not less than sixty languages and dialects are spoken in the old commonwealth. We suppose the Pennsylvania Dutch is included among the latter.

An incident which seriously agitated the Bishop of London, and it is believed hastened his death, occurred in St. Paul's Cathedral, while he was preaching the previous Sunday evening. During a momentary pause in the discourse a wild-looking individual jumped from a chair, and pointing his finger toward the pulpit, yelled, "You worship idols while you scorn to save souls. Woe unto you!" He was soon removed, and was sent to jail for two months.

Mr. Moody will begin a three day's service in Newark, Feb. 17th. From Newark he will go to Fort Wayne, Ind.

Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman has resigned the pastorate of the Madison Avenue Congregational Church in New York City, and the resignation has been accepted.

The Colorado Congregational College is reported as in great embarrassment financially, and in danger of being crippled in its usefulness, or even, possibly, of being utterly ruined.

M. Rebinowitsch; the leader of the "Religion of New Israel," in Bessabaria, a province in Russia, was recently murdered by the orthodox Jews. The New Israel religion is a movement among the Jews to accept Christ as the Savior of men and Redeemer of Israel.

The Detroit Ministerial Union, composed of ministers of various Protestant denominations, has petitioned the State Legislature to amend existing laws so as to restrict the causes for divorce to the single one mentioned by Christ, namely, adultery; and petitioned the police authorities to prevent the placarding of the city by traveling theatrical and other troupes with obscene and corrupting pictures calculated especially to injure the young.

The latest religious sect in Russia is that of the Jerusalemists. As a distinctive sign they wear on their chests a card with a printed dispensation given by the Patriarch of Jerusalem to all those who come to visit him. The members of the society pledge themselves to make at least once in their lives a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Their meetings are held at night, in places which are lighted up by no other light than that of their faith.

At a meeting held at Huntingdon, Pa., the Representatives of the Dunkards, of what is known as the middle district of Pennsylvania, arrangements were made for the grand annual meeting to be held next summer. The meeting will be held the latter part of May, during Whitsuntide, near Mexico station, about six miles east of Mifflintown, on the farm of Mr. Samuel Funk. Great preparations are being made by the representatives of the church in this county, over five hundred of whom will attend the meeting.

SOMERSET HERALD.

Mr. Moody made a visit recently to Canada. The *Presbyterian*, in an appreciative notice, warns the younger brethren against imitating him and offers the following as supporting its gentle caution: "Punshon, as some of our readers may remember, had a habit of laying his left hand on his breast, pretty low down, when he arose to speak. A good brother caught the idea, and when *he* rose to speak he always paused for a moment and laid his open palm carefully over the pit of his stomach and then went on. It was the only thing that Punshon did that he could do.—Ex.

Too Much Latitude.

Last summer I. M. Gibson, a member of the German Baptist church of Stirrip Grove, Ill., was arraigned before the church and the following verdict was rendered against him, to wit:

"I. M. Gibson expelled for refusing to come to the Order of the Church in dress and wearing of the hair, and for speaking disrespectfully of the order in the above named respect.

CHAS. C. GIBSON, Clerk."

Brother Gibson finding Heaven's keys turned against him (?) he and his wife and some others united with the Brethren, and a church was organized there called the Church at Girard, and brother Gibson was chosen to the ministry. Later a committee of Elders came in, and repealed the decision upon the ground that the former decision was not legal, and they are now extending to brother Gibson the salutation again. This may be all right, but it seems to me it is giving the brother too much latitude. The German Baptists hold him as a brother in full fellowship, and the Brethren hold him as, not only a brother in full fellowship but a minister. Bro. Gibson continues to preach for the Brethren as though nothing had happened.

J. H. SWIHART.

From Washington Creek, Kans.

JAN. 23, 1885.—After closing our meetings at Lawrence on the evening of the 9th inst., our brethren there concluded to take us out to Washington Creek, about fifteen miles southwest of that place; accordingly in company with Elder Jos. Michael, and others, we went. Had three meetings, at the Weybright school house, when the weather became very inclement, which stopped operations for several days.

Commenced meetings at the Colyar school house on the evening of the 17th; continued till last evening (22nd). We closed intending to start homeward, and were brought to Lawrence to-day, where we found the brethren otherwise inclined. They having heard of the increasing interest in our meetings determined to "nip in the bud" an old custom of letting the preacher go home just when the interest is awakened. They said, You must go back at least another week, and as we believe in being "subject one to another" we shall return. Thus far we have two applicants for baptism. Our meetings are held in the midst of a large body of German Baptist and Union Baptists. All treat us with respect. We found all very much uninformed in the Brethren's position. We expect in the near future to have quite a large organization of the Brethren, at Washington Creek, Douglass county, Kansas, and in order to enjoy a full realization of our hope in the matter, we heartily invite the co-operation of S. S. Mohler, et al of the opposition. There is work for you, gentlemen, at Washington Creek, Kansas.

W. J. H. BAUMAN.